

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-15 SP-02 DLOS-09 INR-10 OES-07
NSCE-00 CIAE-00 INRE-00 /056 W
-----083936 221456Z /53-S

P R 221325Z MAR 78
FM AMEMBASSY OSLO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5491
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY PARIS
USMISSION USNATO

C O N F I D E N T I A L OSLO 1398

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: EFIS, PBOR, UR, NO, SV
SUBJECT: NORWEGIAN/SOVIET FISHERIES DISCUSSIONS

REF: A) STATE 72099, B) OSLO 1323

1. WE READ WITH INTEREST AMBASSADOR VINDNESS' VIEWS ON THE RECENT SOVIET/NORWEGIAN TALKS ON FISHERIES PROTECTION AROUND SVALBARD (REF-TEL A). HOWEVER, WE BELIEVE THERE ARE IMPLICATIONS FOR US INTERESTS IN HIS COMMENTS WHICH WILL BEAR WATCHING IN THE WEEK AHEAD.

2. WE ARE CONCERNED, FOR EXAMPLE, THAT WHILE VINDNESS AGREES THAT IT IS IMPORTANT TO NOT GIVE THE IMPRESSION OF THE SOVIET'S HAVING A FAVORED POSITION IN THE FPZ AND SAYS (PARA 4) THAT THE GON REJECTED REFERENCES TO MUTUAL INTEREST AND JOINT MEASURES, HE THEN CITES THE RATHER THIN LOS RATIONALIZATION FOR THE QUOTE MUTUAL INTEREST WHICH NORWAY ACCEPTED UNQUOTE IN THE COMMUNIQUE REFERRING TO QUOTE COMMON INTERESTS AND COMMON RESPONSIBILITY UNQUOTE IN THE COMMUNIQUE, THE NORWEGIAN WORD
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FELLES, CAN BE TRANSLATED QUOTE MUTUAL UNQUOTE AS EASILY AS QUOTE COMMON. UNQUOTE

3. WE ALSO READ VINDNESS AS NOT CLEAR AS TO HOW THE KEY DATA COLLECTION AND REPORTING SYSTEM WILL WORK. HE SAYS NORWAY QUOTE OPPOSED UNQUOTE A DUAL REPORTING SYSTEM. HOWEVER, WE REMAIN UNCLEAR AS TO THE PRACTICAL MEANING OF THIS

PROVISION. WILL ALL COUNTRIES FISHING IN THE FPZ REPORT TO NORWAY WHICH WILL THEN SHARE THE DATA WITH THE OTHER CONCERNED NATIONS (IN ADDITION TO THE SOVIETS, WHICH ARE THEY)? WHAT SPECIFIC REPORTING INSTRUCTIONS WILL VESSELS FISHING IN THE FPZ BE GIVEN AND BY WHOM? WHAT HAPPENS IF SOVIET VESSELS CONTINUE TO NOT REPORT, AS NOW?

4. FINALLY, ALTHOUGH THE GON HOPES THE SOVIETS WILL FINESSE THE ISSUE BY ACTING IN CONFORMITY WITH NORWEGIAN REGULATIONS EVEN THOUGH THEY DO NOT PUBLICLY ACKNOWLEDGE THEM, THE GON ALSO THOUGHT THIS WOULD BE THE CASE LAST JUNE WHEN THEY IMPOSED THE CURRENT REPORTING REQUIREMENTS AND THEY WERE WRONG THEN. IF THE GON HAS REALLY MOVED THE SOVIETS ON THIS, A WORKABLE FPZ MAY INDEED BE IN THE CARDS.

5. WE WILL REPORT DEVELOPMENTS AND GON THINKING ON THESE ISSUES IF AND WHEN IT CRYSTALIZES.
BREMER

NOTE BY OCT: DISTRIBUTION PER MR. CAMP, S/S-O.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: FISHERIES, FISHING RIGHTS, TERRITORIAL WATERS, NEGOTIATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 22 mar 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978OSLO01398
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: DG ALTERED
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780126-0408
Format: TEL
From: OSLO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780337/aaaabfja.tel
Line Count: 83
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: ca5cc1bf-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 STATE 72099, 78 OSLO 1323
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 12 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3239186
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: NORWEGIAN/SOVIET FISHERIES DISCUSSIONS
TAGS: EFIS, PBOR, UR, NO, SV
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/ca5cc1bf-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014